



## **Street Farm**

Bucklesham, Suffolk

**Client:**  
Foskers

**Date:**  
December 2015

BUC 099  
Archaeological Evaluation Report  
SACIC Report No. 2015/051  
Author: Jez Meredith  
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# Street Farm, Bucklesham

## BUC 099

Archaeological Evaluation Report

SACIC Report No. 2015/051

Author: Jezz Meredith

Illustrator: Gemma Bowen

Editor: Rhodri Gardner

Report Date: December 2015



## HER Information

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<b>Site Code:</b>	<b>BUC 099</b>
<b>Site Name:</b>	<b>Street Farm, Bucklesham</b>
<b>Report Number</b>	<b>2015/051</b>
<b>Planning Application No:</b>	<b>pre-determination</b>
<b>Date of Fieldwork:</b>	<b>10th-13th July</b>
<b>Grid Reference:</b>	<b>TM 2421 4185</b>
<b>Oasis Reference:</b>	<b>Suffolka1-215982</b>
<b>Curatorial Officer:</b>	<b>Rachael Abraham</b>
<b>Project Officer:</b>	<b>Jezz Meredith</b>
<b>Client/Funding Body:</b>	<b>Foskers</b>
<b>Client Reference:</b>	<b>n/a</b>

Digital report submitted to Archaeological Data Service:

<http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/catalogue/library/greylit>

### Disclaimer

Any opinions expressed in this report about the need for further archaeological work are those of Suffolk Archaeology CIC. Ultimately the need for further work will be determined by the Local Planning Authority and its Archaeological Advisors when a planning application is registered. Suffolk Archaeology CIC cannot accept responsibility for inconvenience caused to the clients should the Planning Authority take a different view to that expressed in the report.

Prepared By: Jezz Meredith  
Date: December 2015

Approved By: Rhodri Gardner  
Position: Managing Director  
Date: December 2015  
Signed:

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## Summary

A trial trenched evaluation revealed the remains of a ring-ditch that extended partly into the site area. This is likely to be part of a prehistoric burial mound that has been ploughed flat. The ring-ditch was 3m wide and over 1.2m in depth. No cremations, graves or other deposits were found associated with this feature in the site area.

A series of undated ditches were found across the rest of the site. These were on similar alignments to the current field boundaries and are likely to be of medieval or later date. The site is adjacent to undated cropmarks and the ditches revealed in the evaluation might be part of this system.





# **1. Introduction**

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Suffolk Archaeology were commissioned to conduct a trial trench evaluation on land to the south of Street Farm, Bucklesham (Fig. 1; grid reference TM 2421 4185). The proposed development area (hereafter referred to as 'the site') consists of a number of fenced paddocks for horses, in total measuring 1.38 hectares. Farm buildings are positioned to the north and residential housing is situated to the east and south-east of the site with open fields to the west and south-west.

A 'Brief for a Trenched Archaeological Evaluation' produced by the archaeological curatorial officer Rachael Abraham proposed that the site be investigated for its archaeological potential prior to an application for planning consent being made (pre-determination). The brief asked for a 3.5% sample by trial trenching to test for surviving archaeological deposits.

A geophysical survey of the site (also requested by Rachael Abraham) revealed a number of potential archaeological features (Schofield 2015). Several linear features, possible pits and part of a curvilinear features (ring-ditch) were identified (Fig. 2).

A 'Written Scheme of Investigation and Risk Assessment' written by Rhodri Gardner (Appendix 1) specified how the trenches would be arranged with seven trenches proposed in the main area (Fig. 3), some of them targeting geophysical survey anomalies. An eighth trench within the garden of 8 Levington Lane (to provide road access to the site) could not be trenched as this property is still occupied.

The trial trenching was conducted between the 9th and 13th of July 2015.

The site has been given the Bucklesham reference BUC 099 within the Historic Environment Record (HER) for Suffolk.

## **2. Geology and topography**

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The site is located to the south of Street Farm and its associated outhouses, garages and small industrial units. The main area of the site is within a single level field that has been subdivided with fences into small paddocks for horses. The western part of the field had been used previously for motorbike scrambling so its surface was slightly uneven but deep disturbances were not obvious.

The topsoil was fine sandy organic loam, very dry and compacted at the time of excavation. Under this was a deep silty sand subsoil of up to 0.5m depth. This is likely to be of wind-blown sand of periglacial origin and is typical of the deep soil profiles of the Felixstowe and Shotley peninsulas.

The underlying drift geology consists predominantly of sands with patches of fine gravel, mainly of pea-shingle type, interspersed with silty patches.

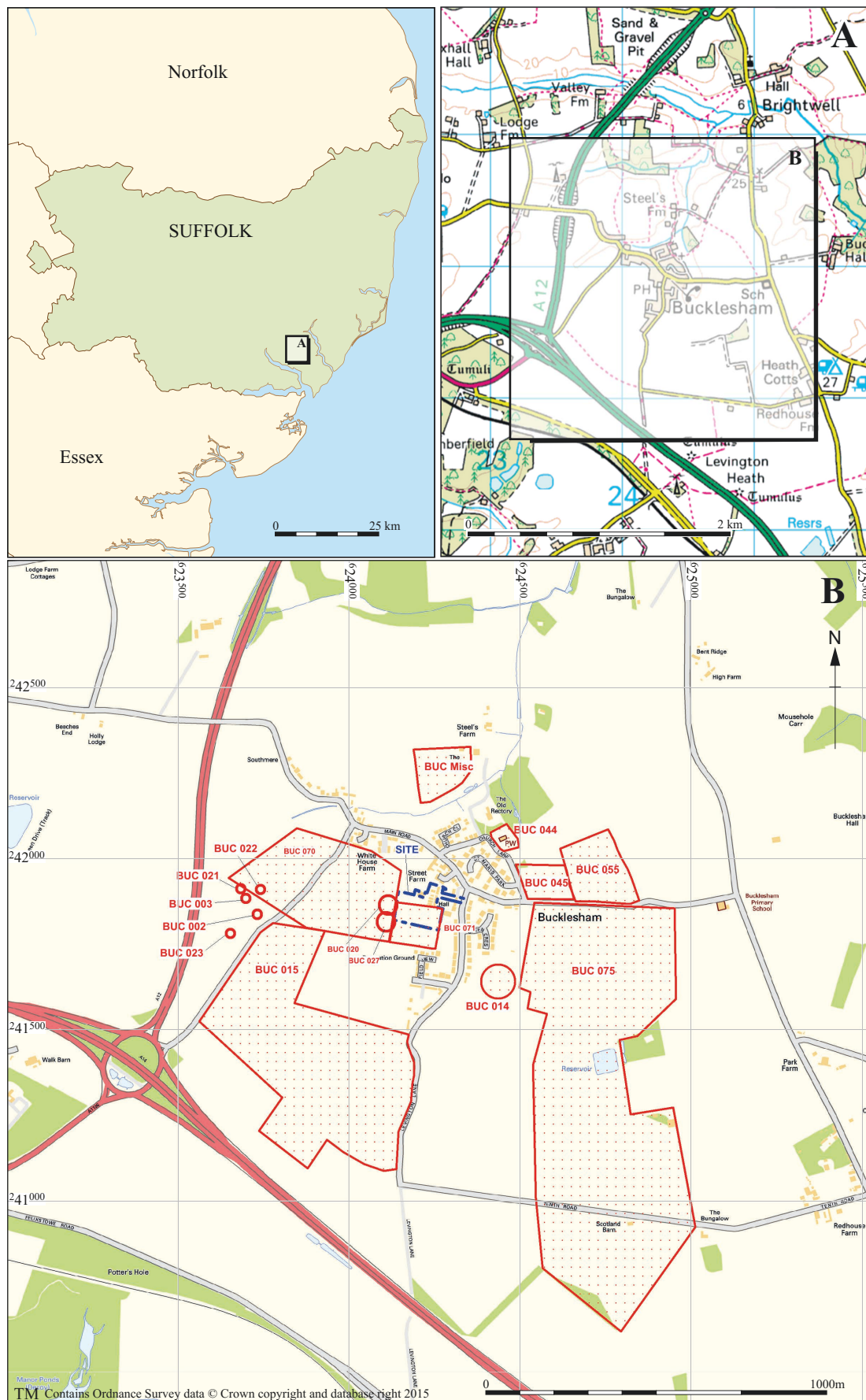


Figure 1. Location of site with HER information

### **3. Archaeology and historical background**

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The site is close to many known historical and archaeological sites as recorded in the Suffolk HER. The site itself is known to have been the location of a radar station (BUC 071). Other known sites within a 500m radius are shown on Figure 1 and represent archaeological remains of prehistoric, Roman, Saxon, medieval and later date.

A ring-ditch, probably representing a ploughed-out prehistoric burial mound, is located immediately to the west of the site and probably extends into the site itself (BUC 027). Further to the west, a group of ring-ditches (identified from aerial photography) indicate a barrow cemetery of likely Bronze Age date (BUC 002, 003, 021, 022 and 023).

Prehistoric finds scatters have been found in the locality with spreads of flints tools found to the north (BUC Misc) and to the east (BUC 055). A small Bronze Age socketed axe had been recovered from the field to the immediate west of the site (BUC 020).

Roman pottery and tile of the 2nd century AD has been identified to the south-east (BUC 014). Middle Saxon to medieval pottery has been recognised as a scatter to the east (BUC 045). The medieval church to the north-east (BUC 044) is likely to be of Saxon origin as it is recorded in the Domesday Book.

A number of cropmark complexes have been recognised but have not been archaeologically investigated. They are undated and could be of multi-period origin. To the east is a large area known from cropmarks of undated trackways, boundaries and enclosures of possible later prehistoric date (BUC 075). This is close to finds scatters of prehistoric flints with Iron Age, Roman and medieval pottery (BUC 055). Another large cropmark complex is located to the south and south-west (BUC 015). This appears to be ditches, enclosures and fields of probable prehistoric or Roman origin. Immediately to the west of the site, the ditch cropmarks could be of post-medieval date (BUC 070) but have not been tested archaeologically.

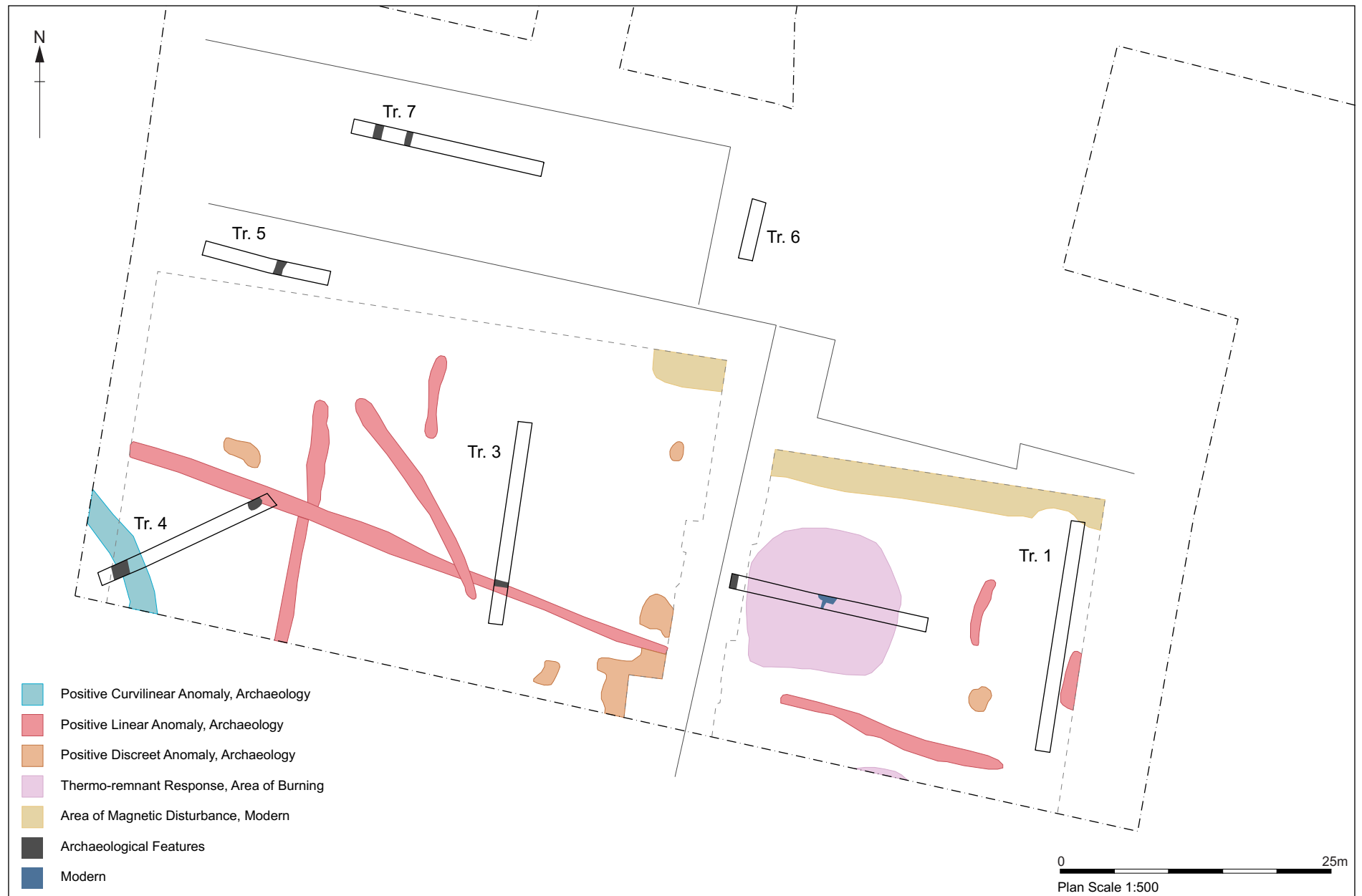


Figure 2. Geophysics interpretation

## **4. Methodology**

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Trial trenches were dug in accordance with the WSI (Appendix 1) and were laid out using a RTK GPS survey unit. Several modifications had to be made to the proposed layout in order to avoid wooden fence lines and other obstructions. The revised locations of the trenches are shown in Figure 2.

Trenching was conducted using an 8-tonne, 360° tracked digger equipped with a 1.8m wide toothless ditching bucket. All machining was carried out under direct archaeological observation with the topsoil and other overburden removed by machine to reveal undisturbed natural sand and gravels (hereafter the 'natural') or archaeological features. The ground was extremely dry and compacted with deep soil deposits. Most trenches were over 0.6m deep.

The base of each trench was examined for features and finds of archaeological interest. The upcast soil was examined visually for any archaeological finds. Records were made of the position and length of trenches and the depths of deposit encountered. Deposits and feature cuts and fills were given separate context numbers within the range 0001 to 0022 (Table 1).

All elements of the site archive have been identified with the Suffolk HER code BUC 099. An OASIS record (for the Archaeological Data Service) has been initiated and the reference code Suffolka1-215982 has been used for this project.

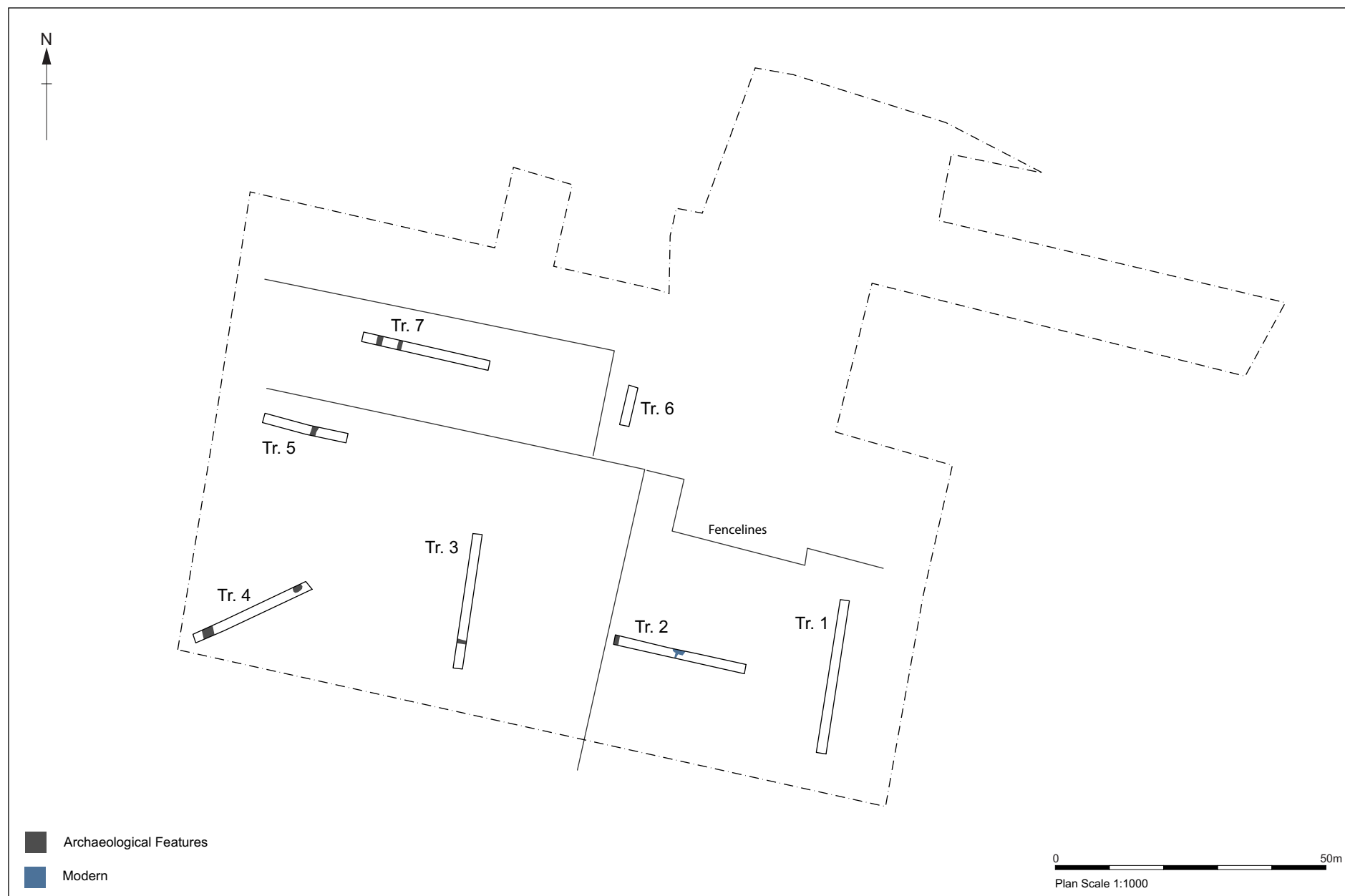


Figure 3. Trench plan

## 5. Results

Context numbers used are shown in Table 1, after which each trench is discussed individually. Only trenches with features are discussed in detail. All trenches were of 1.8m width.

Context	Type	Trench	Description
0001	finds	n/a	Unstratified finds (none collected)
0002	layer	all	Topsoil: mid to dark humic sandy loam with moderate small flint gravel inclusions
0003	layer	all	Subsoil: mid to pale yellow brown silty sand with moderate small to medium flints
0004	layer	3	Gravel deposit under 0003 in Trench 3: pale grey yellow sand with frequent small flints (probably Natural)
0005	ditch cut	3	E-W running ditch; width c.1.2m, depth 0.62m
0006	ditch fill	3	Fill of 0005: mid to pale brown grey silty sand; no finds
0007	layer	4	Subsoil above fills of 0008: mid yellow brown silty sand
0008	ditch cut	4	Curvilinear ditch cutting layer 0011; width c.3.2m, depth >0.9m (not bottomed due to depth)
0009	ditch fill	4	Upper fill of 0008: light orange brown silty sand with occasional small rounded flints; no finds
0010	ditch fill	4	Lower fill of 0008: light yellow grey silty sand with occasional clay lenses seen in section 4 near top; no finds
0011	layer	4	Lower subsoil cut by 0008: pale grey yellow sand with frequent flints
0012	layer	4	Natural as recorded in Tr. 4 sections: pale orange brown sand and gravel
0013	ditch cut	5	N-S running ditch; width 2.3m, depth 0.85m
0014	ditch fill	5	Fill of 0013: mid to pale grey brown silty sand; no finds
0015	ditch cut	7	N-S running ditch; width 2m, depth 0.7m
0016	ditch fill	7	Fill of 0015: mid grey brown silty sand; no finds
0017	?pit cut	4	Possible pit / probable tree-hole; diameter 2.15m, depth 0.75m
0018	?pit fill	4	Fill of 0017: pale to mid grey brown silty sand; no finds
0019	ditch cut	7	N-S running ditch; width 2m, depth 0.7m
0020	ditch fill	7	Fill of 0019: pale to mid grey brown silty sand; no finds
0021	ditch cut	2	N-S running ditch; width >2m (not fully revealed), depth 0.7m
0022	ditch fill	2	Dark brown silty sand; contained large fragment of handmade red brick of prob C.19th date (not retained)

Table 1. Context list



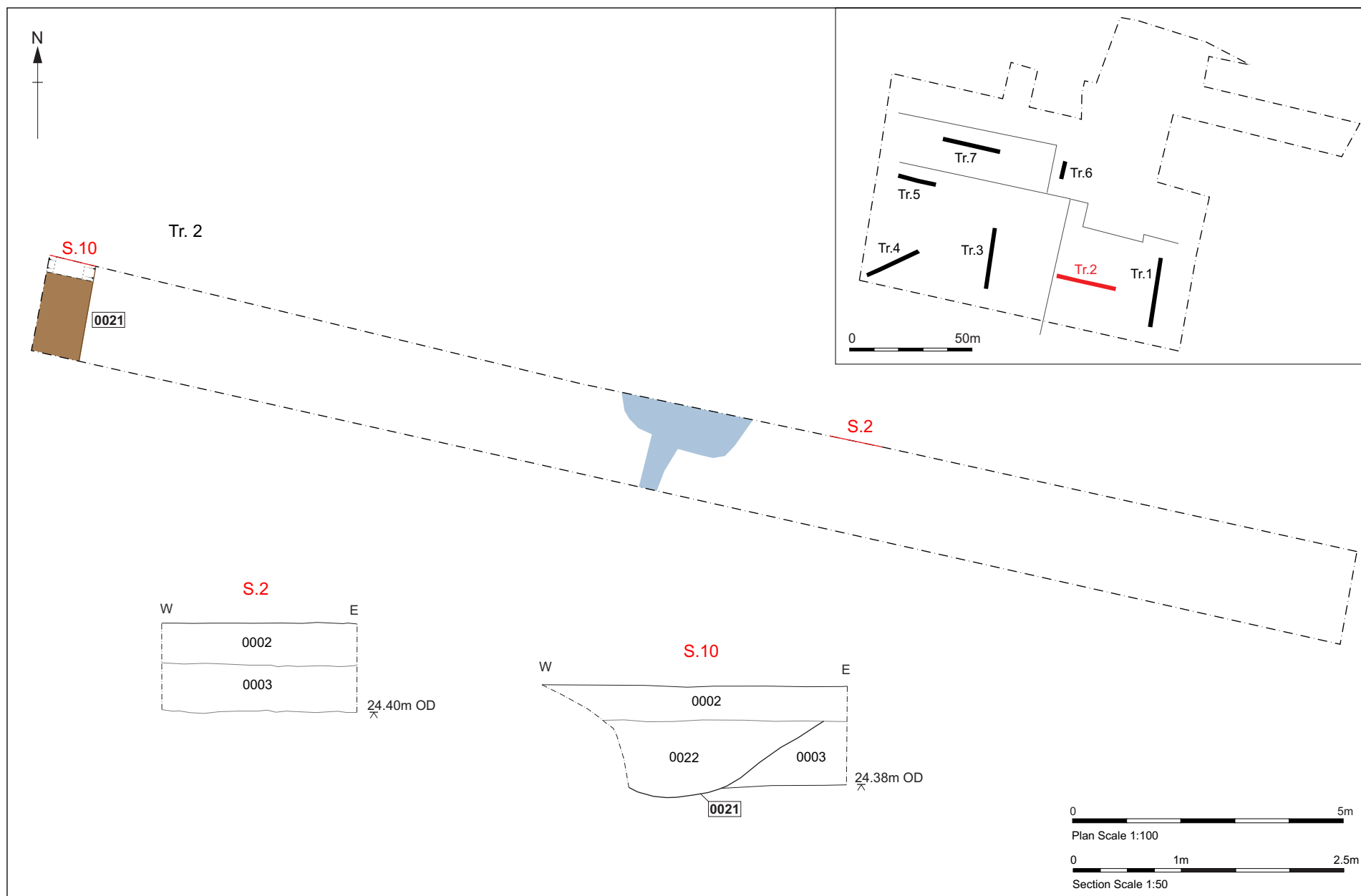


Figure 4. Trench 2, plan and sections

### Trench 1 (Fig. 9)

<b>Location:</b> E edge of site	<b>Orientation:</b> N-S	<b>Trench length:</b> 29m	<b>Topsoil thickness:</b> c.0.3m
<b>Other overburden:</b> 0003 (0.4m S end, 0.5m N end)	<b>Natural:</b> Pale yellow brown sand with gravel patches	<b>Features:</b> None	

### Trench 2 (Fig. 4)

<b>Location:</b> SE corner of site	<b>Orientation:</b> E-W	<b>Trench length:</b> 25m	<b>Topsoil thickness:</b> c.0.3m
<b>Other overburden:</b> 0003 (0.45m)	<b>Natural:</b> Pale yellow sand with gravel & silty patches	<b>Features:</b> Ditch 0021	

#### *Ditch 0021*

A large north to south running linear feature, partly revealed in the western end of the trench but at least 2m wide and 0.7m deep with gently sloping sides and a rounded base. This ditch cut the subsoil layer 0003. Fill 0022 was dark brown silty sand with moderate small to medium flints. A large fragment of handmade red brick came from this fill. The post-medieval / early modern brick and the dark colour of the ditch fill suggest that this is a fairly recent feature.

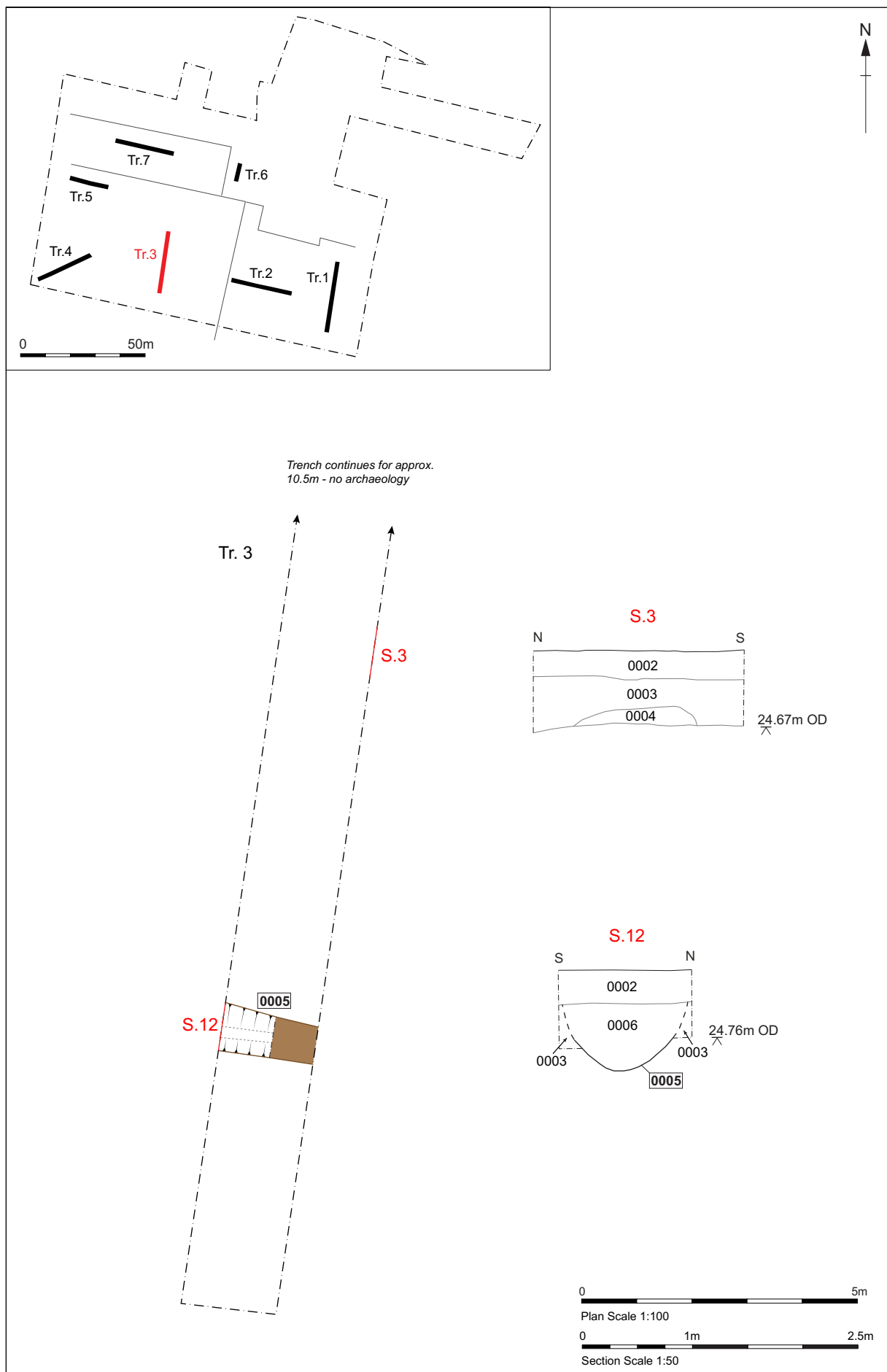


Figure 5. Trench 3, plan and sections

### Trench 3 (Fig. 5)

<b>Location:</b> S edge of site	<b>Orientation:</b> N-S	<b>Trench length:</b> 26m	<b>Topsoil thickness:</b> c.0.3m
<b>Other overburden:</b> 0003 (0.3 - 0.4m) 0004 (0.18m)	<b>Natural:</b> Pale yellow sand with frequent fine gravel patches	<b>Features:</b> Ditch 0005	

#### *Ditch 0005*

An east to west running linear feature with gently sloping sides and narrow rounded base cutting layer 0003. It had a width of 1.2m and a depth of 0.62m. Fill 0006 was mid to pale brown silty sand with occasional small to medium flints. No finds were recovered from this feature. Ditch 0005 appears to correspond to a linear anomaly identified in the geophysical survey (Fig. 2).

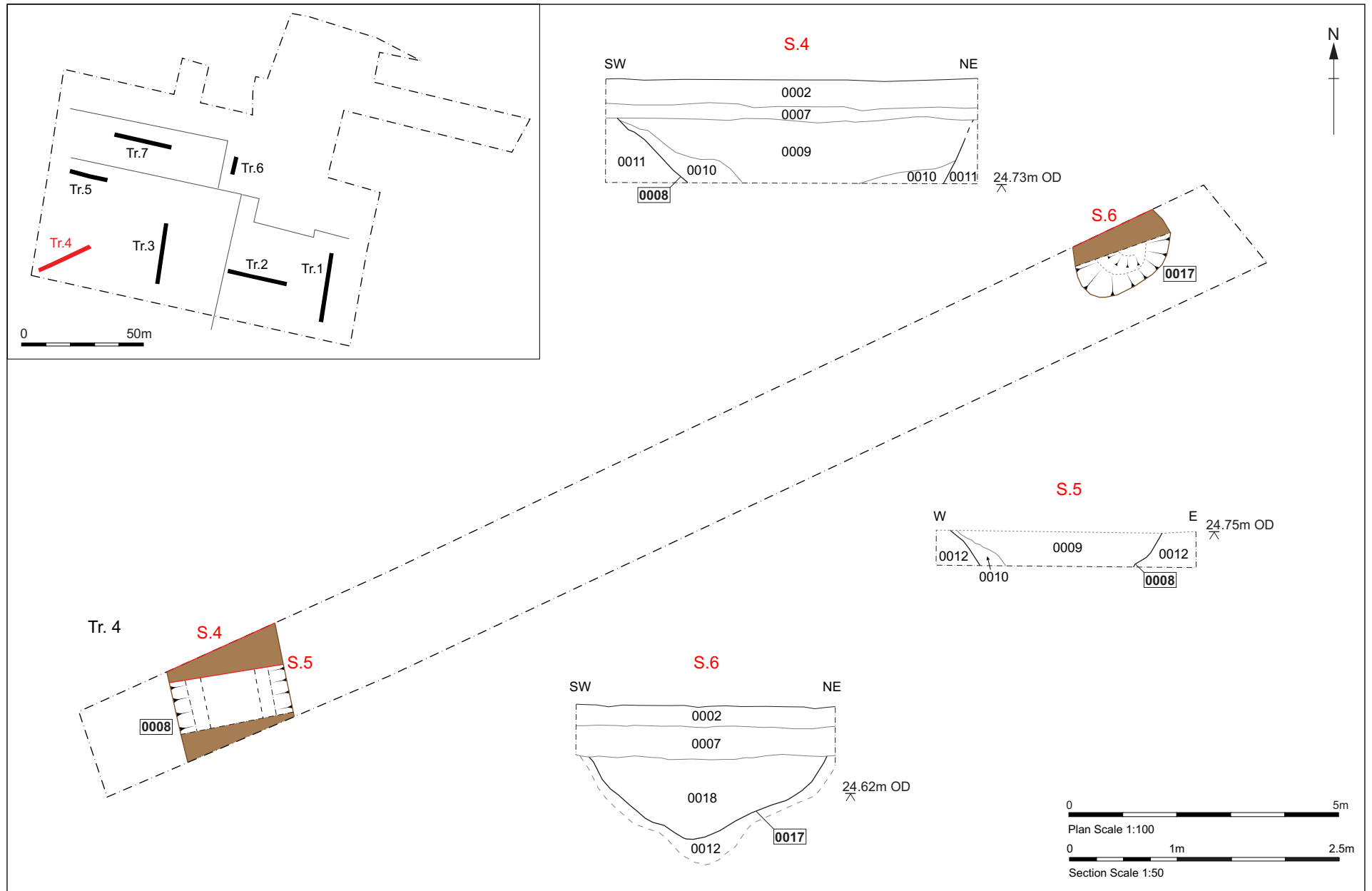


Figure 6. Trench 4, plan and sections

## Trench 4 (Fig. 6)

<b>Location:</b> SW corner of site	<b>Orientation:</b> NE-SW	<b>Trench length:</b> 24m	<b>Topsoil thickness:</b> c.0.25m
<b>Other overburden:</b> 0007 (0.15 - 0.3m) 0011 (0.6m)	<b>Natural:</b> Yellow sand with gravel & frequent silty patches	<b>Features:</b> Ring-ditch 0008 ?Pit 0017	

### *Ring-ditch 0008*

A curvilinear feature, identified in the geophysical survey and likely to correspond to the ring-ditch BUC 027 in the Suffolk HER. This was a wide feature of c.3.2m with fairly gently sloping south-western (inner) edge and steeper north-eastern (outer edge). This feature was not bottomed as excavation was stopped at 1.2m depth from the top of the trench. Ditch 0008 cut the lower subsoil layer 0011 but its fills were sealed by the upper subsoil 0007. The upper fill 0009 was light orange brown silty sand with occasional small flints. Below this was fill 0010 which was light yellow grey silty sand with occasional silty clay lenses. No finds were recovered from these fills.

### *Pit 0017*

A large irregular feature of likely natural origin (tree-hole?) with a diameter of 2.15m and a depth of 0.75m. Fill 0018 was pale to mid grey brown silty sand with occasional small flints. No finds were observed in this fill.

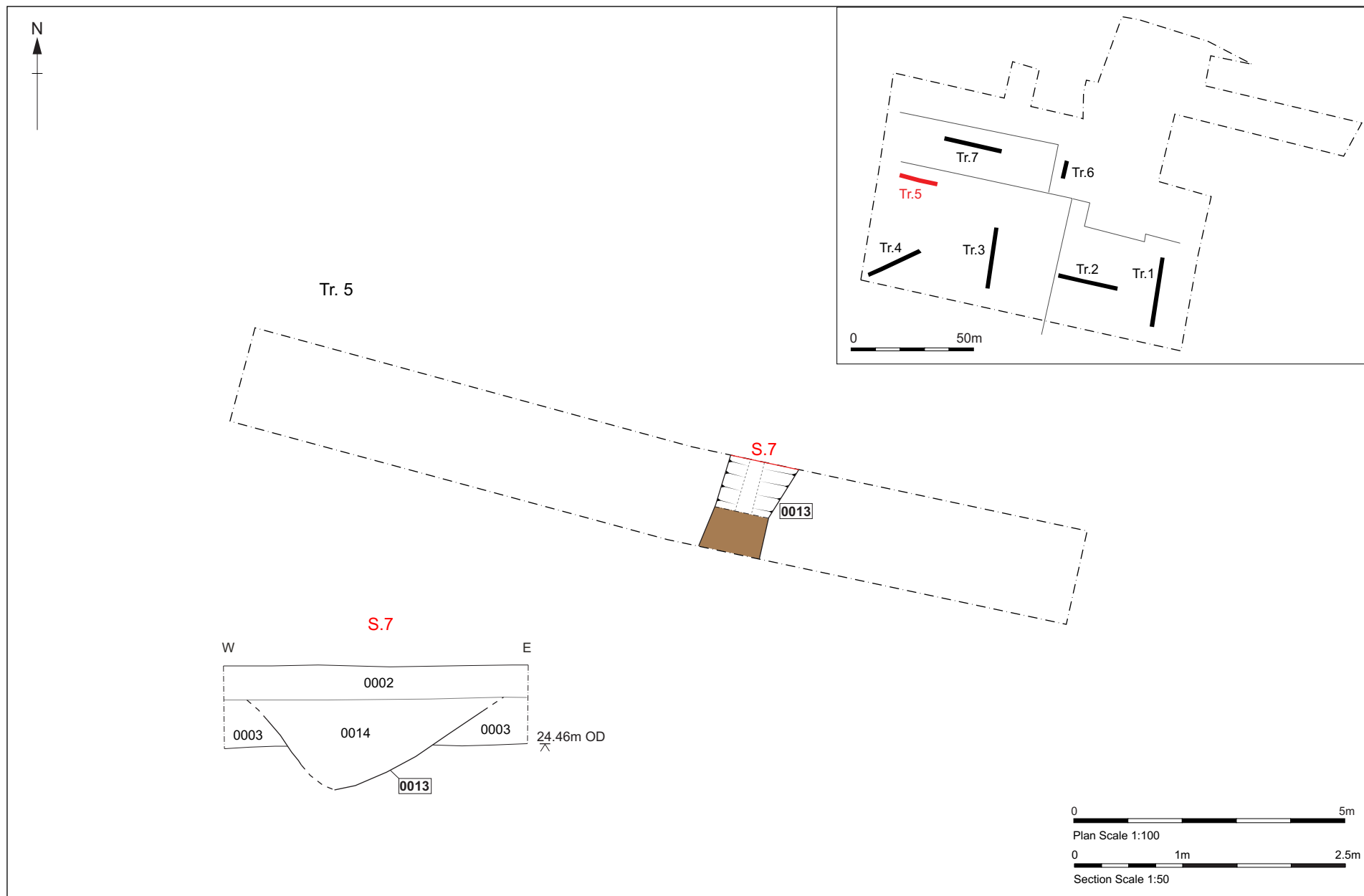


Figure 7. Trench 5, plan and section

Trench 5 (Fig. 7)

<b>Location:</b> W edge of site	<b>Orientation:</b> E-W	<b>Trench length:</b> 17m	<b>Topsoil thickness:</b> c.0.3m
<b>Other overburden:</b> 0003 (0.5m)	<b>Natural:</b> Sand & gravel with silty patches	<b>Features:</b> Ditch 0013	

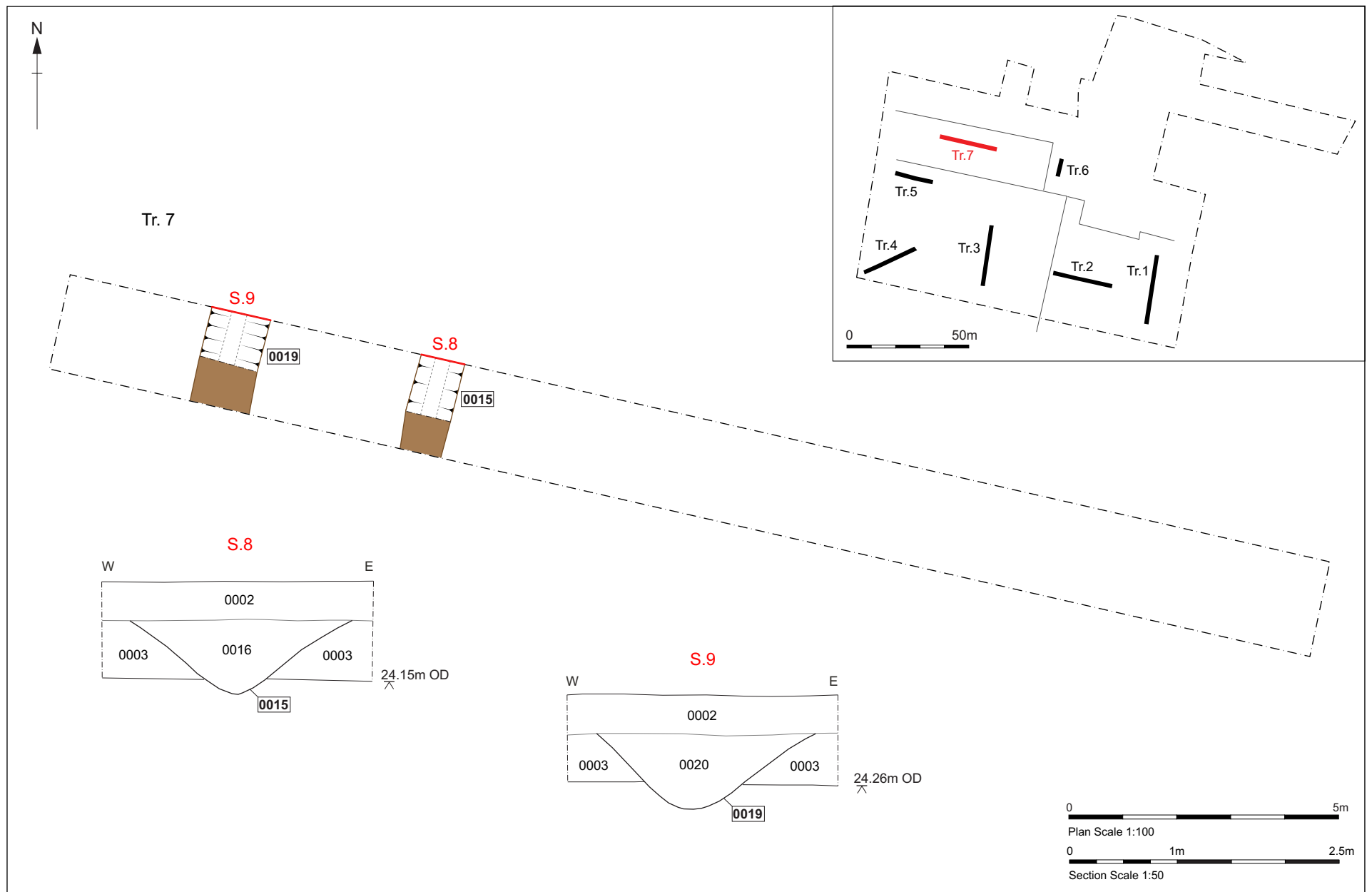
*Ditch 0013*

A north to south running linear feature cutting layer 0003. It had an asymmetric profile (steeper west edge) and narrow rounded base with a width of 2.3m and a depth of 0.85m. Fill 0014 was mid to pale grey brown silty sand with occasional flints but no finds.

Trench 6 (Fig. 9)

<b>Location:</b> N central	<b>Orientation:</b> N-S	<b>Trench length:</b> 8m	<b>Topsoil thickness:</b> c.0.4m
<b>Other overburden:</b> 0003 (0.5m)	<b>Natural:</b> Pale yellow sand with gravel & silty patches	<b>Features:</b> None	





## Trench 7 (Fig. 8)

<b>Location:</b> NW corner of site	<b>Orientation:</b> E-W	<b>Trench length:</b> 25m	<b>Topsoil thickness:</b> c.0.3m
<b>Other overburden:</b> 0003 (0.5m)	<b>Natural:</b> Pale yellow sand with frequent gravel & silty patches	<b>Features:</b> Ditches 0015 & 0019	

### *Ditch 0015*

A north to south linear feature cutting the subsoil layer 0003. It had a wide V-shaped profile with slightly convex sides and a narrow rounded base. It had a width of 2m and a depth of 0.7m. Fill 0016 was mid grey brown silty sand with occasional to moderate small to medium flints. There were no finds from this fill.

### *Ditch 0019*

This feature was parallel to and to the west of ditch 0015. This ditch had straight sides and a rounded base with a width of 2m and a depth of 0.7m. Fill 0020 was similar to 0016 of ditch 0015 and there were no finds from this fill either.

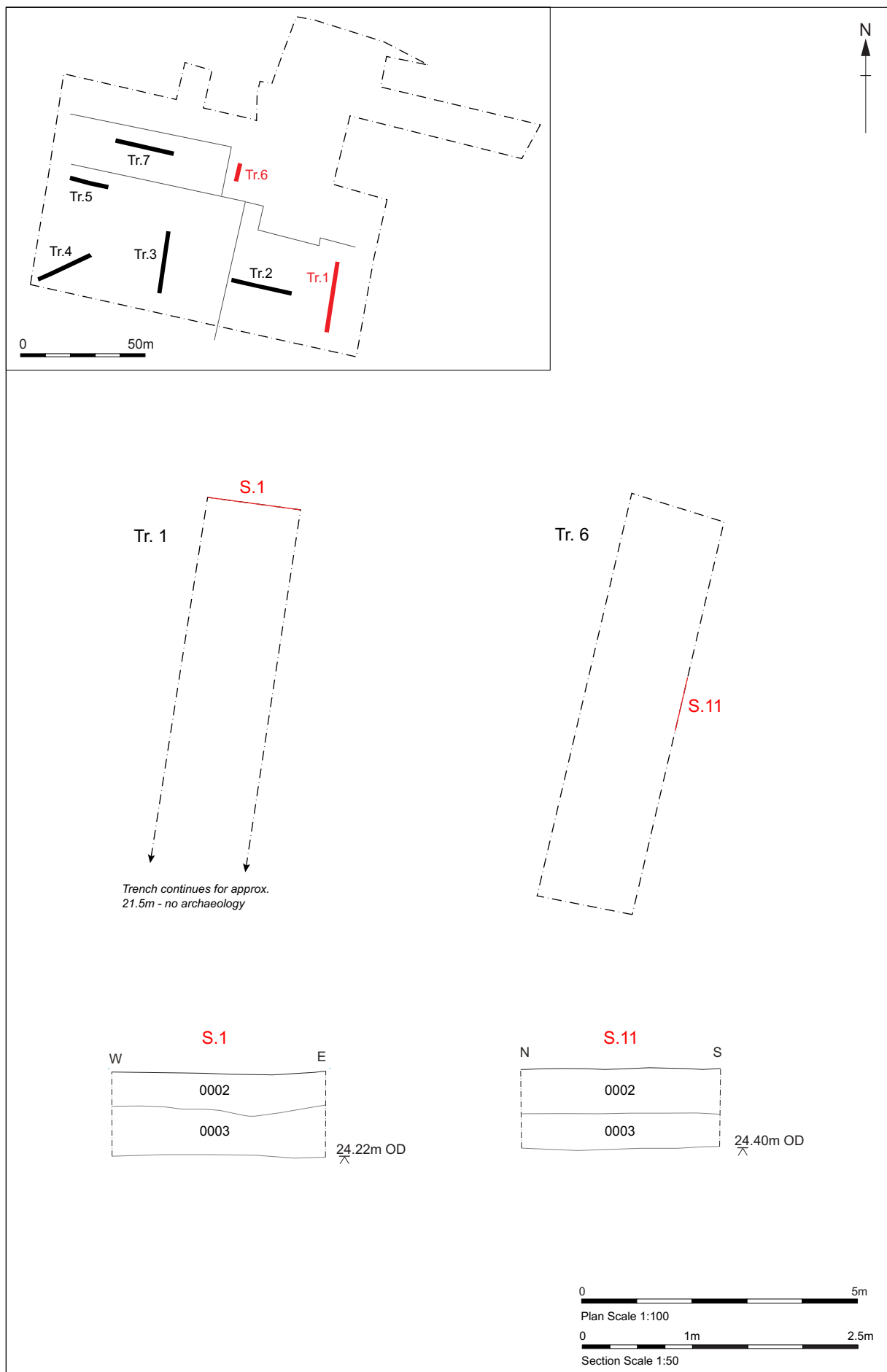


Figure 9. Trenches 1 & 6, plan and sections

## **7. Conclusions and recommendations for further work**

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The ring-ditch BUC 027 as seen on the geophysics plan (Fig. 2) was confirmed to extend slightly into the site area and was recorded as ditch 0008. It is likely that this is part of a prehistoric burial mound. The ring-ditch was of over 3m width and continued below 1.2m depth where excavation ceased for safety reasons. No finds were found associated with this feature and no outlying cremations, graves or other deposits were recognised in the vicinity. The ditch was initially recognised in the base of the trench at a depth of 0.9m but close examination of the side of the trench (Fig. 6, Section 04) revealed that the cut for 0008 could be traced at c.0.4m depth from the ground surface.

Ditch 0005 in Trench 3 appears to correspond to a linear feature identified in the geophysical plot (Fig. 2). The tree hole (0017) seen in Trench 4 might be part of a hedge or tree-line that ran along the south edge of ditch 0005. This ditch appears to be almost at right-angles to the current field boundary to the west and might be part of the same medieval or later field alignments. The fill of the ditch was fairly pale suggesting some antiquity but no datable finds were recovered from this feature.

The series of north to south running ditches in Trenches 5 and 7 (0013, 0015 and 0019) could line up with or be parallel with those identified in the geophysics (Fig. 2), although these trenches were outside the geophysics survey (due to obstacles such as fences, trees and other vegetation). All three ditches were of some size, with all of 2m or more in width and of at least 0.7m depth. All had similar open V-shaped profiles. The fills were fairly pale showing some leaching and are thus of some antiquity. Although no dating evidence has been recovered from any of these features it is likely that they are of at least medieval or post-medieval date as they appear to correspond to the present field alignments. The modern field boundaries appear to be unchanged since the first edition Ordnance Survey map of the 1880s so remarkably little modification has taken place since then (Fig. 10).

A large ditch with a dark fill (0021) is likely to be of fairly recent date and contained an early modern brick. It is on the same alignment as the present field boundaries. This ditch was too close to the present fence line for geophysical survey but the large burnt area identified by geophysics in the vicinity of Trench 2 appears to be associated with modern pitting (Figs. 2 and 4).

It is possible that the system of ditches seen in the geophysics and trenching survey as represented by ditch 0005 (east to west running) and ditches 0013, 0015 and 0019 (north to south running) indicates an earlier field system that possibly avoids the mound that once stood within the ring of ditch 0008. Once this mound had been levelled the current boundary ditch along the west side of the site could be dug (also parallel ditch 0021 to the east) but still preserving the earlier field alignments.

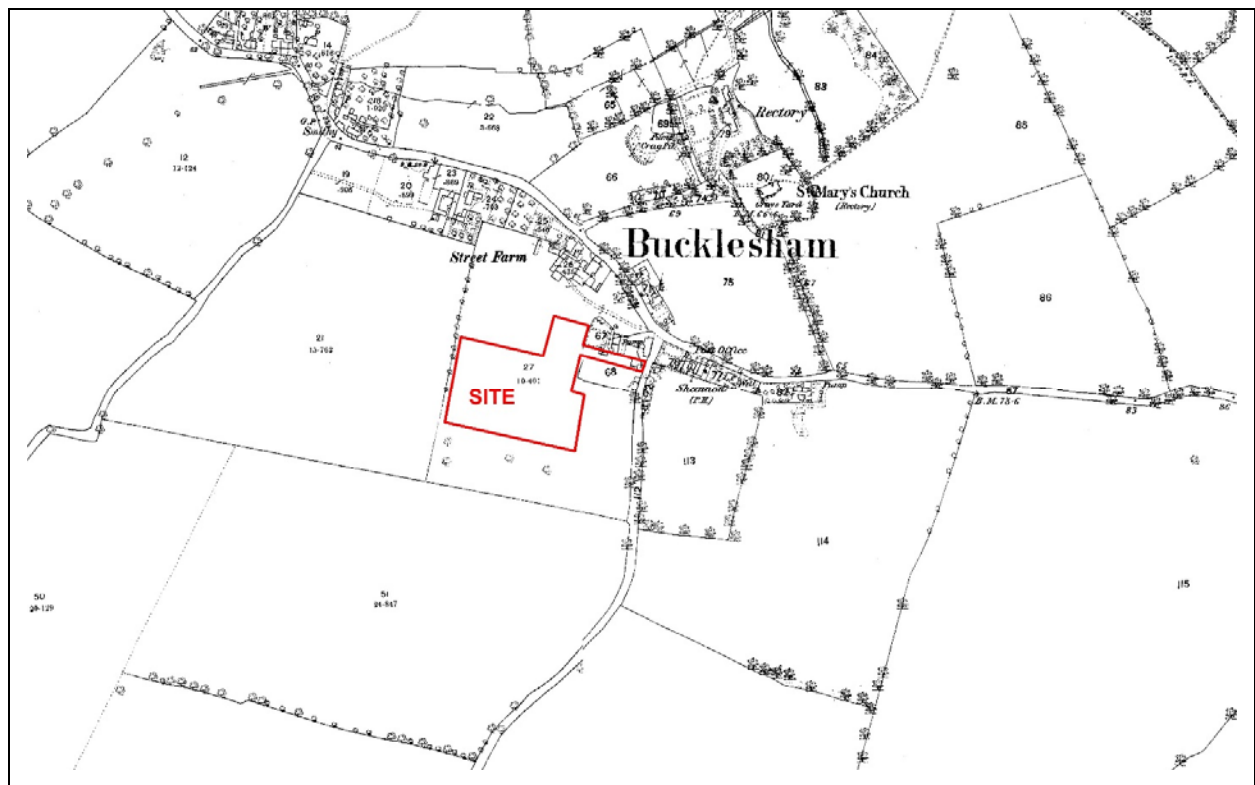


Figure 10. First edition OS map of c.1880 with site area superimposed

No pre-modern finds were recovered either from features or unstratified from the topsoil suggesting that early occupation or intensive use did not occur within the site area. It is recommended that any future development, services or other below-ground interventions should avoid the area in the south-west corner of the site in the vicinity of the ring-ditch 0008, particularly as it occurs at a relatively shallow depth below topsoil. It should be noted that an area to the north-east of the site (where the access road is proposed) could not be trenched as this area is within an occupied bungalow and garden. It might need investigation before development proceeds as it is close to the road frontage and could reveal medieval or later deposits.

## **8. Archive deposition**

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Paper and photographic archive: SACIC Needham Market

Digital archive: SACIC R:\ Archive\Bucklesham\BUC 099 Street Farm eval

Digital photographic archive: SACIC R:\Catalogues\Photos\HZA-HZZ\HZS 01-21

## **9. Acknowledgements**

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The fieldwork was carried out by James Alexander and Jez Meredith with the GPS survey conducted by Simon Cass.

Project management was undertaken by Rhodri Gardner who also provided advice during the production of the report.

The report illustrations were created by Gemma Bowen.

## **10. Bibliography**

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Schofield, T., 2015, *Detailed Magnetometer Survey of land adjacent to Street Farm, Bucklesham, Suffolk*. Britannia Archaeology Report No. 1099

## Appendix 1. Written Scheme of Investigation



### Street Farm, Levington Lane, Bucklesham

#### Written Scheme of Investigation

#### Trenched Evaluation

**Date:** July 2015

**Prepared by:** Rhodri Gardner

**Issued to:** Rachael Abrahams (SCCAS Conservation Team)

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## Summary Project Details

Site Name	Street Farm, Levington Lane
Site Location/Parish	Bucklesham
Grid Reference	TM 2421 4185
Access	off Levington Lane
Planning Application No	Pre-determination
HER code	BUC 099
Event No.	ESF23119
OASIS ref.	Suffolka1-215982
Type:	Trial trench evaluation
Area	1.4ha
Project start date	9 <sup>th</sup> July 2015
Fieldwork duration	2 day, with 1 day contingency (estimated)
Number of personnel on site	Up to 3

## Personnel and contact numbers

SACIC Project Manager	Rhodri Gardner	01449 900120
Project Officer (first point of on-site contact)	Jezz Meredith	07889971049
Curatorial Officer	Rachael Abraham	01284 741232
Consultant		

## Emergency contacts

Local Police	Ipswich Police Station, 10 Museum Street, Ipswich IP1 1HT	101
Location of nearest A&E	Ipswich Hospital Heath Road, Ipswich, IP4 5PD	01473 712233

## Hire details

Plant:	Holmes Plant & Construction	01473890766
Toilet Hire	Capel Plant	01206 844004
Tool hire:	n/a	



## **Contents**

1. Background
2. Fieldwork
3. Post-excavation
4. Additional Considerations
5. Staffing

## **Figures**

1. Site location
2. Trench layout

## **1. Background**

- 1.1 Suffolk Archaeology have been asked by Artisan Planning and Property Services (on behalf of a client) to prepare documentation for a programme of archaeological evaluation by trial trench at the above site (Fig 1). This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) covers this trenched evaluation only. Any further stages of archaeological work that might be required in relation to the proposed development would be subject to new documentation.
- 1.2 The whole site is covers c. 1.38ha, and is located at NGR TM 2421 4185 (Figure 1).
- 1.3 The present stage of work is being requested at the pre-application stage.
- 1.4 The LPA has been advised that a programme of archaeological work should take place prior to development, in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework (Para 141). The purpose of such work being the recording and advancement of understanding of any heritage assets present at the location before they are damaged or destroyed in the course of the development.
- 1.5 The archaeological investigation will be conducted in order to comply with a Brief produced for this specific planning condition by Rachael Abraham of the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service (SCCAS) (dated 2<sup>nd</sup> July2015).
- 1.6 The application is within an area of high archaeological potential, as suggested by the presence of sites recorded in the County HER. The Brief states that the site lies on the site of a WWII radar station (BUC 071). It also partially contains a cropmark within it – seemingly indicative of a ring ditch (BUC 020). Further cropmarks suggestive of field boundary ditches and possible enclosures also lie adjacent (BUC 070).
- 1.7 A geophysical survey has already been carried out on the site. This confirmed the likely presence of not only the more general system of ditches (BUC 070) but also the ring ditch on the far south-western corner of the development site (BUC 020).
- 1.8 The development proposal is mixed, and is for the construction of ten houses/bungalows and two blocks of business units. The groundwork such construction would entail is liable to damage or destroy any potential heritage assets that may be present within the site. The purpose of the trial trenching is therefore to assess the archaeological potential of the development site.
- 1.9 As the geophysical survey has already been undertaken the total trench area has been reduced to 3.5% of the total area. A further 50m<sup>2</sup> is to be held back as a contingency to further examine the ring ditch and its surround if it located. The proposed trial trench locations are shown in Figure 2. Most are spread in order to give as even coverage as possible, with one used to target the location of the ring ditch.
- 1.10 This WSI complies with the SCCAS/CT standard Requirements for a Trenched Archaeological Evaluation (2012, Ver 1.1), as well as the following national and regional

guidance 'Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation' (IFA, 1995, revised 2001) and 'Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England (EAA Occasional Papers 14, 2003).

1.11 The research aims of this trial trench evaluation are as follows, as described in Section 3.2 of the SCCAS Conservation Team brief:

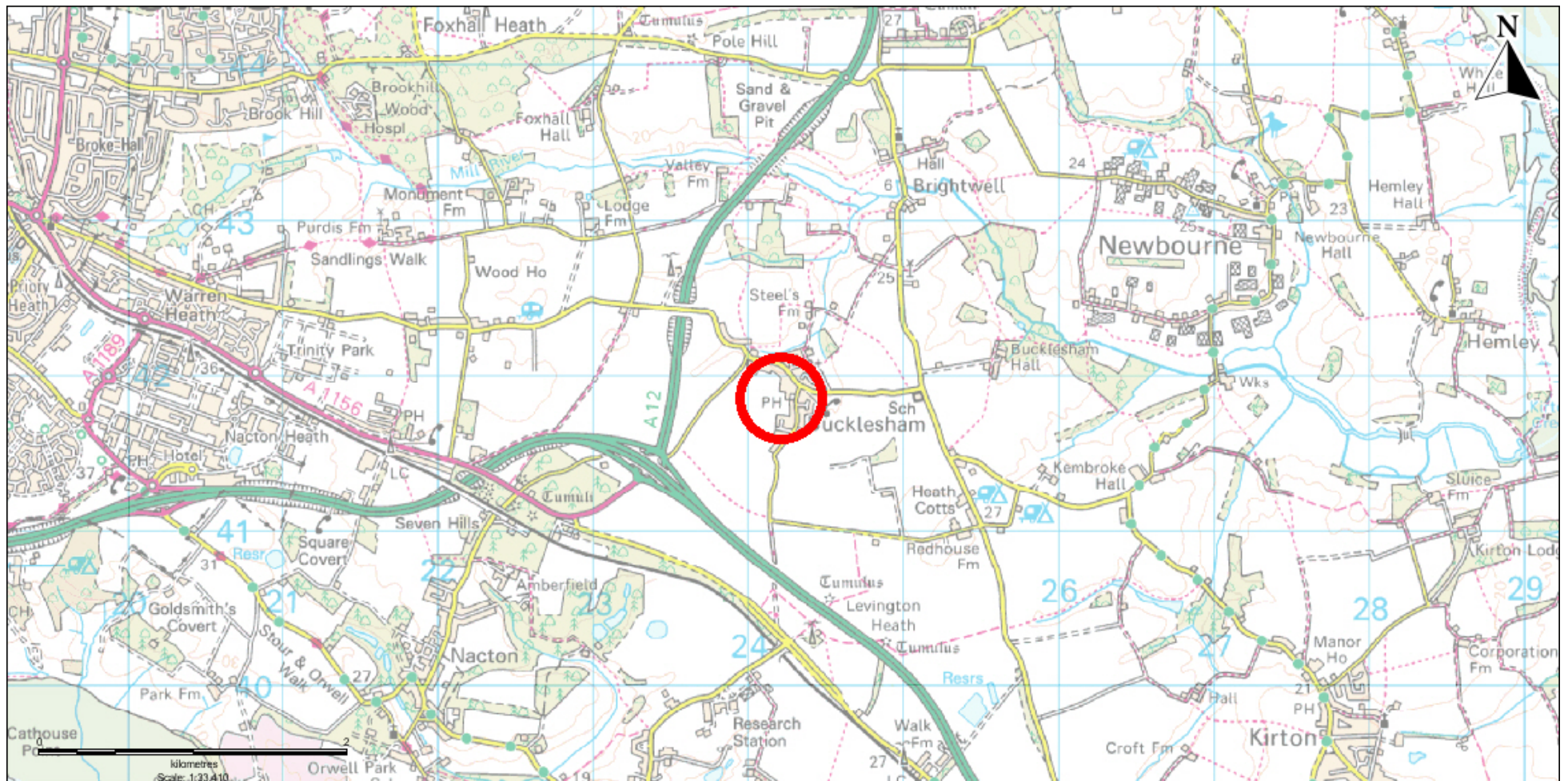
*RA1: Identify the date, approximate form and purpose of any archaeological deposit within the application area, together with its likely extent, localised depth and quality of preservation.*

*RA2: Evaluate the likely impact of past land uses, and the possible presence of masking colluvial/alluvial deposits.*

*RA3: Establish the potential for the survival of environmental evidence.*

*RA4: Provide sufficient information to construct an archaeological conservation strategy, dealing with preservation, the recording of archaeological deposits, working practices, timetables and orders of cost.*

In addition to these specific aims the potential of the site to address any relevant themes outlined in the Regional Research Framework for the Eastern Counties (Brown & Glazebrook, 2000; Medleycott, 2011).



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Figure 1. Site Location



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Figure 2. Proposed trench layout

## **2 Fieldwork: trial trench evaluation**

- 2.1 All archaeological fieldwork will be carried out by full-time professional employees of Suffolk Archaeology. The project team will be led in the field by an experienced member of staff of Project Officer grade/experience. The excavation team will comprise a Project Officer and up to 2 experienced excavators and surveyors (to include metal detectorist).
- 2.2 Evaluation of the development area in this instance will employ eight (8) trenches, each 1.8m by 30m, to give a total length of 240m, which equates to a 5% sample of the development site. A further area of 50m<sup>2</sup> (approx 1% of the total area) is to be held back as a contingency, to be deployed if the ring ditch is located in order to establish if it is accompanied by satellite burials or other associated features.
- 2.3 One of the trenches (that shown in the rear of No. 6 Levington Lane) will be excavated at a later date, as the house will likely be occupied at the time we intend to carry out the trenching work (9<sup>th</sup> July 2015).
- 2.4 No information has currently been provided about the presence or otherwise of services by the developer. Therefore if previously unknown services or similar restrictions are encountered during work on site then trench layout may have to be amended accordingly.
- 2.5 The trenches will be excavated by a machine equipped with a toothless ditching bucket, under the constant supervision of an archaeologist. All overburden (topsoil and subsoil) will be removed stratigraphically until either the first archaeological horizon or natural deposits are encountered. Spoil will be stored adjacent to each trench and topsoil, subsoil and concrete/overburden will be kept separate for sequential backfilling.
- 2.6 Archaeological deposits and features will be sampled by hand excavation and the trench bases and sections cleaned as necessary in order to satisfy the project aims and also comply with the SCCAS Requirements for Archaeological Evaluation, 2012.
- 2.7 If a trench requires access by staff for hand excavation and recording, it will not exceed a depth of 1.2m. If this depth is not sufficient to meet the archaeological requirements of the Brief and Specification it will be brought to the attention of the client or their agent and the Archaeological Advisor to the LPA so that further requirements can be established. Deeper excavation can be undertaken provided suitable trench support is used or, where practicable, the trench sides are stepped or battered. However such a variation will incur further costs to the client and time must be allowed for this to be established and agreed.
- 2.8 All features will be investigated and recorded to provide an accurate evaluation of archaeological potential whilst at the same time minimising disturbance to archaeological structures, features and deposits.
- 2.9 A site plan showing all trench locations, feature positions and levels AOD will be recorded using suitable surveying equipment, depending on the specific requirements of the project. A minimum of one to two sections per trench will be recorded at 1:20. Feature sections and plans will be recorded at 1:20 and trench and feature plans at 1:20

or 1:50 as appropriate. All recording conventions used will be compatible with the County HER.

- 2.10 The site will be recorded under a unique HER number acquired from the Suffolk HER Office and archaeological contexts will be recorded using pro forma Context Recording sheets and entered into an associated database.
- 2.11 The HER number in this instance is BUC 099, and the event number ESF23119.
- 2.12 A digital photographic record will be made throughout the evaluation.
- 2.13 Metal detector searches will be made at suitable stages of the excavation works.
- 2.14 All pre-modern finds will be kept and no discard policy will be considered until all the finds have been processed and assessed.
- 2.15 All finds will be brought back to the Suffolk Archaeology premises for processing, preliminary assessment, conservation and packing. Most finds analysis work will be done in house, but in some circumstances it may be necessary to send some categories of finds to specialists working in other parts of the country.
- 2.16 Bulk environmental soil samples (40 litres each) will be taken from suitable features and retained until an appropriate specialist has assessed their potential for palaeo-environmental remains. Decisions can then be made on the need for further analysis following this assessment. If necessary advice will be sought from English Heritage's Regional Advisor in Archaeological Science on the need for specialist environmental sampling.
- 2.17 In the event of human remains being encountered on the site, guidelines from the Ministry of Justice will be followed. The evaluation will attempt to establish the extent, depth and date of burials whilst leaving remains in situ. During the evaluation any exposed human remains will be securely covered and hidden from the public view at all times when they are not attended by staff. At the conclusion of the work backfilling will be carried out in a manner sensitive to the preservation of such remains.
- 2.18 If circumstances dictate that the lifting of human remains is unavoidable then a Ministry of Justice Licence for their removal will be obtained prior to their removal from site.

### **3 Post-excavation**

- 3.1 A unique HER number will be acquired from the Suffolk HER. This will be clearly marked on all documentation and material relating to the project.
- 3.2 The post-excavation work will be managed by Suffolk Archaeology's Post-excavation and Finds Manager, Richenda Goffin. Specialist finds staff whether in-house personnel or external specialists are experienced in local and regional types of material in their field.
- 3.3 All artefacts and ecofacts will be held by Suffolk Archaeology until analysis of the material is complete.
- 3.4 All site data will be entered on a computerised database compatible with the County HER. All site plans and sections will be copied to form a permanent archive on archivally stable material. Ordnance Datum levels will be on the section sheets. The photographic archive will be fully catalogued.
- 3.5 All finds will be processed, marked and bagged/boxed to County HER requirements. Where appropriate finds will be marked with a site code and a context number.
- 3.6 Bulk finds will be fully quantified on a computerised database compatible with the County HER. Quantification will fully cover weights and numbers of finds by context with a clear statement on the degree of apparent residuality observed.
- 3.7 Metal finds on site will be stored in accordance with ICON guidelines, initially recorded assessed for significance before dispatch to a conservation laboratory within 4 weeks of the end of the excavation. All pre-modern silver, copper alloy and ferrous metal artefacts will be x-rayed and coins will be x-rayed if necessary for identification. Sensitive finds will be conserved if necessary and deposited in bags/boxes suitable for long term storage to ICON standards. All coins will be identified to a standard acceptable to normal numismatic research.
- 3.8 Pottery will be recorded and archived to a standard consistent with the Draft Guidelines of the Medieval Pottery Research Group and Guidelines for the archiving of Roman Pottery, SGRP (ed. M.G. Darling, 1994) and to The Study of Later Prehistoric Pottery: General Policies and Guidelines for analysis and Publications, Occasional Papers No.1 and No. 2, 3rd Edition (Revised 2010, Prehistoric Ceramic Research Group).
- 3.9 Environmental samples will be processed and assessed to standards set by the English Heritage Regional Scientific Advisor with a clear statement of potential for further analysis and significance.
- 3.10 Animal and human bone will be quantified and assessed to a standard acceptable to national and regional English Heritage specialists.
- 3.11 An industrial waste assessment will cover all relevant material (i.e. fired clay finds as well as slag).



- 3.12 A report on the results of the evaluation will be completed within 6 weeks of the completion of the fieldwork. The report will be commensurate with the level of results but will contain sufficient information to stand as an archive report should no further work be required on the site.
- 3.13 The report will include a summary in the established format for inclusion in the annual "Archaeology of Suffolk" section of the *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History*.
- 3.14 The Suffolk HER is registered with the Online Access to Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) project. Suffolk Archaeology will complete a suitable project-specific OASIS form at <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis>. The completed form will be reproduced as an appendix to the final report.
- 3.15 A draft of the report will be submitted to SCCAS for approval.
- 3.16 On acknowledgement of approval of the report from SCCAS hard and digital copies will be sent to the Suffolk HER.
- 3.17 Upon completion of reporting works ownership of all archaeological finds will be given over to the relevant authority. There is a presumption that this will be SCCAS, who will hold the material in suitable storage to facilitate future study and ensure its proper preservation.
- 3.18 The project archive shall be compiled in accordance with the guidelines issued by the SCCAS (2010). The client is aware of the costs of archiving and provision will be made to cover these costs in our agreement with them. The archive will be deposited with the County Archaeology Store unless another suitable repository is agreed with SCCAS.
- 3.19 If the client does not agree to transfer ownership to SCCAS they will be required to nominate another suitable repository approved by SCCAS or provide funding for additional recording and analysis of the finds archive (such as, but not limited to, additional photography or illustration of objects).
- 3.20 The law dictates that client can have no claim to the ownership of human remains. Any such remains must be stored by SCCAS, in accordance with the relevant site's Ministry of Justice licence.
- 3.21 In the rare event that artefacts of significant monetary value are discovered separate ownership arrangements may be negotiated, provided they are not subject to Treasure Act legislation.
- 3.22 If an object qualifies as Treasure, under the Treasure Act 1996. The client will be informed as soon as possible if this is the case and the find(s) will be reported to the Suffolk Finds Liaison Officer (who then reports to the Coroner) within 14 days of the

objects discovery and identification. Treasure objects will immediately be removed to secure storage, with appropriate on-site security measures taken if required.

- 3.23 Any material eventually declared as Treasure by a Coroner's Inquest will, if not acquired by a museum, be returned to the client and/or landowner. Employees of Suffolk Archaeology, their subcontractors or any volunteers under their control will not be eligible for any share of a treasure reward.

## **4 Additional considerations**

### **4.1 Health and Safety**

- 4.1.1 The project will be carried out in accordance with Suffolk Archaeology's Health and Safety Policy at all times. A copy of this policy is provided in Appendix 1.
- 4.1.2 All Suffolk Archaeology staff are experienced in working under similar conditions and on similar sites to the present site and are aware of Suffolk Archaeology H&S policies. All permanent Suffolk Archaeology excavation staff are holders of CSCS cards.
- 4.1.3 A separate Risk Assessment and Method Statement (RAMS) document will be prepared for the site and provided to the client. Copies will be available to SCCAS on request.
- 4.1.4 All staff will be aware of the project's risk assessment and will receive a safety induction from the Project Officer.
- 4.1.5 It may be necessary for site visits to be made by external specialists or Suffolk County Council monitors. All such staff and visitors must abide by Suffolk Archaeology's H&S requirements for each particular site, and will be inducted as required and made aware of any high risk activities relevant to the site concerned.
- 4.1.6 Site staff, official visitors and volunteers are all covered by Suffolk Archaeology's insurance policies. Policy details are shown in Appendix 2.

### **4.2 Environmental controls**

- 4.2.1 Suffolk Archaeology is committed to following an EMS policy. All our preferred providers and subcontractors have been issued with environmental guidelines. On site the Project Officer will police environmental concerns. In the event of spillage or contamination reporting procedures will be carried out in accordance with Suffolk Archaeology's EMS policies.

### **4.3 Plant machinery**

- 4.3.1 A 360° tracked mechanical excavator equipped with a full range of buckets will be required for the trial trenching. The sub-contracted plant machinery will be accompanied by a fully qualified operator who will hold an up-to-date Construction Plant Competence Scheme (CPCS) card (approved by the CITB).

#### **4.4 Site security**

- 4.4.1 Unless previously agreed with the client this WSI (and the associated quotation) assumes that the site will be sufficiently secure for archaeological work to be undertaken.
- 4.4.2 In this instance all security requirements including fencing, padlocks for gates etc. are the responsibility of the client.

#### **4.5 Access**

- 4.5.3 The client will secure access to the site for Suffolk Archaeology personnel and subcontracted plant, and obtain all necessary permissions from landowners and tenants. This includes the siting of any accommodation units/facilities required for the work.
- 4.5.2 Any costs incurred to secure access, or incurred as a result of access being withheld (for example by a tenant or landowner) will not be the responsibility of Suffolk Archaeology. Such costs or delays incurred will be charged to the client in addition to the archaeological project fees.

#### **4.6 Site preparation**

- 4.6.1 The client is responsible for clearing the site in a manner that enables the archaeological works to go ahead as described. Unless previously agreed the costs of any subsequent preparatory works (such as tree felling, scrub/undergrowth clearance, removal of concrete or hardstanding not previously quoted for, demolition of buildings or sheds, removal of excessive overburden, refuse or dumped material) will be charged to the client in addition to the archaeological project fees.

#### **4.7 Backfilling**

- 4.7.1 The trench will be backfilled sequentially in reverse order of deposit removal. Where present topsoil will be returned as the uppermost layer. The backfilled material will then be compacted by the machine tracking along the line of trench.
- 4.7.2 No specialist reinstatement is offered, unless by specific prior agreement.

#### **4.8 Monitoring**

- 4.8.1 Arrangements for monitoring visits by the LPA and its representatives will be made promptly in order to comply with the requirements of the brief and specification.

## **5 Staffing**

5.1 The following staff will comprise the Project Team:

- 1 x Project Manager (supervisory only, not based on site full-time)
- 1 x Project Officer (full time)
- 2 x Site Assistant (as required)
- 1 x Site Surveyor (as required)
- 1 x Finds/Post-excavation manager (part time, as required)
- 1 x Finds Specialist (part time, as required)
- 1 x Environmental Supervisor (as required)
- 1 x Finds Assistant or Supervisor (part time, as required)
- 1 x Senior Graphics Assistant (part time, as required)

5.2 Project Management will be undertaken by Rhodri Gardner and the Project Officer will be Jez Meredith. All Site Assistants and other staff will be drawn from Suffolk Archaeology's qualified and experienced staff. Suffolk Archaeology will not employ volunteer, amateur or student staff, whether paid or unpaid, to undertake any of the roles outlined in 5.1.

5.3 A wide range of external specialists can be employed for artefact assessment and analysis work as circumstances require.

## Appendix 2. OASIS summary

OASIS ID: suffolka1-215982

### Project details

Project name	Street Farm, Buckelsham
Short description of the project	Trial trench evaluation (3.5% plus 1% contingency) following geophysical survey which identified possible ring ditch feature in SW corner of the site. The trenching revealed the remains of a ring-ditch that extended partly into the site area. This is likely to be part of a prehistoric burial mound that has been ploughed flat. The ring-ditch was 3m wide and over 1.2m in depth. No cremations, graves or other deposits were found associated with this feature in the site area. A series of undated ditches were found across the rest of the site. These were on similar alignments to the current field boundaries and are likely to be of medieval or later date. The site is adjacent to cropmarks of probable post-medieval ditch alignments and these might extend into the site area.
Project dates	Start: 09-07-2015 End: 13-07-2015
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	BUC 099 - HER event no.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Vacant Land 2 - Vacant land not previously developed
Monument type	DITCH Late Prehistoric
Monument type	DITCH Uncertain
Significant Finds	NONE None
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches","Targeted Trenches"
Development type	Rural residential
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF

### Project location

Country	England
Site location	SUFFOLK SUFFOLK COASTAL BUCKLESHAM BUC 099 Street Farm
Postcode	IP10 0EF
Study area	1.40 Hectares
Site coordinates	TM 2421 4185 52.0291020996 1.26883751443 52 01 44 N 001 16 07 E Point

### Project creators

Name of Organisation	Suffolk Archaeology CIC
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	Rachael Abraham
Project director/manager	Rhodri Gardner
Project supervisor	Jezz Meredith
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer

### Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	Suffolk HER
Digital Contents	"other"
Digital Media available	"GIS", "Images raster / digital photography", "Spreadsheets", "Survey", "Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Suffolk HER
Paper Contents	"other"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet", "Correspondence", "Drawing", "Miscellaneous Material", "Report"

### Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Archaeological evaluation report: Street Farm, Bucklesham, Suffolk (BUC 099)
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Meredith, J.
Other bibliographic details	SACIC rpt no. 2015/051
Date	2015
Issuer or publisher	SACIC
Place of issue or publication	Needham Market
Description	short report full of golden nuggets

Entered by	Jezz Meredith (jezz.meredith@suffolkarchaeology.co.uk)
Entered on	27 July 2015



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